

June 2025 Edition

gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au

The **Gwydir News** is a free-to-read monthly publication available online or for collection from local outlets.



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Australia's First Satellite to Mobile Texting Service has Landed

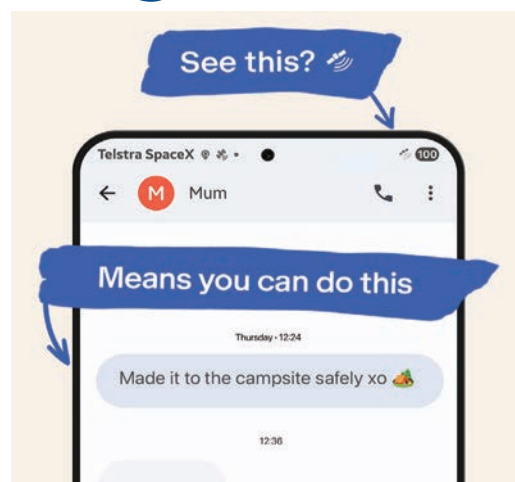
An exciting update from Telstra for anyone working, living or travelling in and around regional and rural Australia.

Telstra has unveiled its new Satellite Messaging service, which aims to enhance connectivity for Australians in remote and regional areas. The service allows users with compatible devices—specifically, the Samsung Galaxy S25 series and iPhone 13 through 16 (all models) on an eligible plan—to send and receive text messages via SpaceX's **Starlink** satellites when outside Telstra's mobile network.

The technology operates automatically: when a user is beyond mobile coverage and outdoors with a clear view of the sky, their device connects to the satellite network, enabling text communication. The service currently supports only text messages and doesn't facilitate voice calls, or emergency services like 000.

According to Telstra, satellite messaging is an intermittent service with the time it takes to send and receive messages dependent on your location, device, and the availability of **Starlink** Direct to Cell satellites. This means customers are likely to find that some messages are sent or received almost instantly, while others may take longer.

The service will mostly benefit people who live or travel outside mobile networks in regional and remote parts of the country, for the farmer in the back paddock who wants to check on when their family member will be getting back from town; for the outdoor



enthusiast on a hike checking in with family; or for road trippers experiencing a flat tyre and needing to reach out for help.

While the Satellite Messaging service promises to bridge some communication gaps, it has sparked mixed reactions among rural and regional communities. Regional residents have long expressed frustration over inconsistent mobile coverage and question whether this new service addresses the root issues or merely offers a temporary solution.

We'd like to hear from you:

- Have you experienced Telstra's Satellite Messaging service yourself since its launch?
- Do you believe Telstra's Satellite Messaging service is a positive step toward addressing the connectivity challenges in our region?

Share your thoughts by sending a Letter to the Editor at gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au or join the conversation on **The Gwydir News** Facebook page. Your insights are important in highlighting the real-world impact of technological advancements on rural and regional communities.

— The Gwydir News Editorial Team

Next issue: The **Gwydir News** will be published on Thursday 17th July. **Plan your advertising now**—booking and material deadline for the next issue is Monday 7th July. Email gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au



2025 PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

The Gwydir News is a free-to-read monthly publication, available online or for collection from local outlets. Support the news with paid advertising and advertorials, to enjoy free editorial content.

JULY	COPY DUE DATE	MONDAY 7 JULY
	PUBLISH DATE	THURSDAY 17 JULY
AUGUST	COPY DUE DATE	MONDAY 11 AUGUST
	PUBLISH DATE	THURSDAY 21 AUGUST
SEPTEMBER	COPY DUE DATE	MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER
	PUBLISH DATE	THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER	COPY DUE DATE	MONDAY 6 OCTOBER
	PUBLISH DATE	THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER
NOVEMBER	COPY DUE DATE	MONDAY 10 NOVEMBER
	PUBLISH DATE	THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER
DECEMBER	COPY DUE DATE	MONDAY 8 DECEMBER
	PUBLISH DATE	THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER

How to get your article published in The Gwydir News

Do you have some news, an article or other content that you'd like to contribute to The Gwydir News?

Submission Guidelines

The Gwydir News welcomes submissions for publishing in print. Please read the guidelines below and email your submission to gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au

Text | Text submissions should be emailed in Word or Word-compatible file format.

Text articles should be around 600 words in length.

Images | High quality images will be accepted in most formats including .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .eps etc. We are unable to publish images that have been scanned, copied or downloaded from the Internet. If you are using images that belong to someone else, please provide details and ensure you have written permission regarding their use.

To maintain quality, images should be emailed as attachments to gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au

Flyers | Flyers in .pdf format can be accepted however please consider the layout and design of your flyer elements including text. An A4 flyer, when reduced to a quarter page ad will result in illegible text.

Costs | The Gwydir News supports not-for-profit organisations with reduced pricing or (occasional) free editorial space. If you are submitting content on a regular basis, or you are a business or organisation that receives income, you will need to book a paid ad to support submission of your article.

Please outline your needs by email at gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au and we will respond with a quote.





From the Mayor

Here we are in June, and this last week has certainly let us know that winter is here. We can be thankful that we are going into winter with lots of lush green feed, water in our dams and the country looking beautiful. Let's hope the season continues!

It's been another busy month in the Gwydir with so many things happening.

Warialda Show

Congratulations to the wonderful Warialda P & A Show Committee who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to put on a very successful four-day show. The weather was perfect, and the crowd numbers were fantastic!

My fellow Councillors and I enjoyed a beautiful luncheon prepared by Show Committee Members.

It is always amazing to see just how much talent we have across our Shire; this certainly showed with the variety of works entered and displayed in the pavilions.

A huge congratulations to Louisa Gilmour who is the 2025 Warialda Young Woman, she will now go on to represent the community at the Zone Finals hosted in Warialda on 7 February 2026. We can't wait to follow her success!

Warialda Town Square

The park is really starting to take shape now and it is wonderful to see the vision coming together. Concreting of footpaths and shelters has commenced, as well as landscaping. The turf arrived in early June. The concrete apron with stainless steel inlay (entrance to the park) is



completed and ready to be installed. Work on the amenities is at lock up stage.



Naroo Frail Aged Care Facility

Naroo Frail Aged Care Facility has recently adopted a Household Model of Care in a recent wing expansion at the facility. Building works are complete and the finishing touches are now taking place.

The Household Model of Care in Australian aged care facilities is a person-centred approach designed to create a more homelike, empowering, and relationship-focused environment for older people. It departs from the traditional institutional or hospital-like model of aged care by reshaping both the physical environment and the care culture.

Key Features of the Household Model:

1. Small Living Units ("Households"):
 - Residents live in small groups, typically 8–12 people.
 - Each household has its own kitchen, dining area, and lounge, mimicking a private home.
 - Staff and residents form close, stable relationships within the household.
2. Person-Centred Care:
 - Emphasis on resident autonomy, dignity, and choice.
 - Daily routines are guided by the residents' preferences, not institutional schedules.
 - Residents are encouraged to participate in household activities such as cooking, gardening, and decision-making.

3. Consistent Staffing:

- Staff are consistently assigned to the same household, which fosters trust and deeper relationships.
- Roles are often broadened to include a mix of personal care, meal preparation, and social support tasks.

4. Home-like Environment:

- Physical design aims to be non-institutional with private rooms, soft furnishings, and accessible kitchens.
- The environment is designed to reduce confusion and promote well-being, particularly for residents with dementia.

Benefits:

- Improved quality of life and satisfaction for residents.
- Better outcomes in areas like emotional well-being, engagement, and reduced use of psychotropic medications.
- Stronger relationships between staff and residents.
- Improved job satisfaction and retention of staff.

The **2021 Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety** strongly endorsed the household model, recommending it as a preferred model for future residential aged care in Australia. The government has since supported pilot programs and infrastructure redesigns that align with this model.

What a great asset this model will be for the facility! Plus, what a benefit this adoption will provide the residents in care.

Day Care Centres

The Day Care Service now has 10 children attending in Warialda and 15 children attending in Bingara. May has been a busy month with meaningful, play-based learning, led by the children's interests taking place at both venues. Singing, dancing and sensory play are a focus for our educators and the children are responding well.

Gwydir Willoughby Youth Exchange

With less than a month to go, planning for the 2025 Youth Exchange Program is in full swing!

Staff are finalising the itinerary and confirming some exciting experiences for the participants. Information sessions were held at Warialda High School and Bingara Central School to encourage student participation in the 2025 Youth Exchange Program.

A large number of application forms were distributed, and we are hopeful for a strong response from interested students. The deadline is approaching fast, and we look forward to seeing the enthusiasm reflected in the applications received.

Wellness and Interpretive Centre

Works completed at the end of May 2025 on the Wellness and Interpretive Centre include external cladding, stormwater drainage and floor coverings to the office/amenities. Glazing panels have also been installed in all doors and windows.

It is great to see this project coming together with so many items being ticked off the to-do list.



New Household Model of Care Kitchen at Naroo.



Wellness and Interpretive Centre.

Bingara Administration Centre

The delay in the arrival of the decorative concrete tilt panels continues to slow the progress of the Bingara Administration Centre project. The panels are now due for delivery to site in the week commencing 16 June 2025, with installation set to be completed by the end of June.

Work completed since the last report includes stabilisation work to the existing façade, installation of the arbour portal frames, erection of structural steelwork and installation of roof trusses.



Construction of arbour and facade stabilisation works.

Destination and Visitor Economy Conference

Cr Rachel Sherman, staff members and I attended this conference at Kingscliff. This would have to be my favourite conference, I always come back so inspired as I know just how much our whole Shire has to offer visitors to the area.

The Councillors and I are looking forward to working with Destination NSW staff to promote our Shire as a place for tourists and travellers to stop, explore and experience.



Cr Sherman and Cr Tiffany Galvin, Mayor at Destination NSW Conference.

NSW Local Government Excellence Awards

I was privileged to be able to attend the NSW Local Government Local Excellence Awards dinner on 5 June 2025 at The Star with Council's Director of Engineering, Alex Eddy and Technical Officer, Martin Ladmore. WOW, what a night and it was made even better when Gwydir Shire won an Excellence Award for Infrastructure and Assets (under \$1.5m) for its Community Informed Asset Prioritisation Project.

This award recognises Council's extensive community engagement over the last three years and includes the most recent Shire-wide productivity survey. The purpose of this community based initiative is to ensure that feedback from the residents in the Shire, local knowledge and data collected provide a receptive road prioritisation approach.

This tactic confirms that Council is spending funds that are most fitting with the wants and needs of its ratepayers. This methodology not only focuses on current infrastructure needs but also prioritises future road developments. The introduction of this concept will profoundly change how Gwydir Shire Council focuses and transforms road maintenance projects.

Congratulations to Alex and his team on receiving this Award!



Darius Turner of Captivate Consulting, Cr Tiffany Galvin, Mayor and Director of Engineering, Alex Eddy at the NSW Local Government Local Excellence Awards, Sydney.

Roads

During May, maintenance grading or resheeting was carried out on the following roads (whole of part):

- Baroma Road
- Mungle Road
- Kirewa Road
- Ottley Road
- Blue Nobby Road
- Gulf Creek Road
- Tucka Tucka Road
- Eulourie Road
- Oregon Road
- Kemps Road
- Hibernia Road

During May, slashing was carried out on the following roads (whole or part):

- Warialda Road
- Croppa Moree Road
- Allan Cunningham Road
- Getta Getta Road
- Cobbadah Road

Telstra

The saga continues with the instability of Telstra service across the whole Shire. Again, outages occurred over the King's Birthday long weekend, causing frustration for residents of the Warialda, Gravesend and Coolatai areas.

Businesses were disrupted once again, and it is extremely concerning to the Councillors and I that if an emergency were to occur then there would be no way for people to contact emergency services during these periods.

Both The Hon Brendan Moylan, Member for Northern Tablelands and The Hon Barnaby Joyce, Member for New England are advocating for Gwydir residents to receive improved services. Council plans to meet Telstra on 18 June 2025, to see how we can improve services cross the whole of our Shire.

Myall Creek

Cr Scot Crispin, Cr Marilyn Dixon, Council staff and I attended the Myall Creek Massacre Memorial Commemoration on Sunday of the long weekend.

The Commemoration is such a positive and powerful day, and I was honoured to share the day with (see photo at right L – R) Cr Sam Coupland, Mayor Armidale Regional Council, Cr Darrell Tiemens, Mayor Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Kate Dight, Mayor Inverell Shire Council, Cr Fiona Brown, Inverell Shire Council, Cr Tiffany Galvin, Mayor Gwydir Shire Council, Cr Susannah Pearse, Mayor Moree Plains Shire Council, The Hon Brendan Moylan, Member for Northern Tablelands, The Hon Felicity Wilson MP, Shadow Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, and The Hon David Harris, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty of New South Wales.

The Roxy

The stormwater and drainage site works are progressing well, and the project is on schedule to be completed by end June.

Council thanks North West Theatre Company and adjacent business owners who have been impacted by the works. It is much appreciated that we can work together and overcome short term inconveniences for great long term benefits.

The Living Classroom Cabins – Electricity Connection

The contractor who is to connect the high voltage electricity supply to The Living Classroom cabins has advised that this will be completed by 19 June 2025. Fingers crossed!

Gwydir River Foreshore

Works have paused onsite for a few weeks while Soil Conservation staff were seconded to the mid north coast to assist with flood recovery.

Soil Conservation has advised that they plan to be back the first week of July. During July a new pontoon will be installed. This pontoon will be removeable so that during future storm seasons and wet weather events the pontoon can be lifted out of the water and moved out to higher ground and, then repositioned after the threat has passed.

Site works will see the existing footpath connect to the pontoon.

Unfortunately, the recent riverbank restoration and site compaction could not save the river gum tree. The tree had to be removed for safety reasons.



Orange Picking Festival

This year is the 65th anniversary of Bingara's Orange Picking Ceremony. 2025 also signifies the 80th anniversary of the end of WWII.

The picking will be held on Friday 4 July at 11.00am in Finch Street.

The Picking and Festival (which is held the following day in Maitland Street) will be extra special given Hugh Whitfeld will be here both days. On Saturday, Hugh will be hosting the

Festival!

If you are curious about a Council matter and would like to see a particular update on a project, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via theofficeofthemayor@gwydir.nsw.gov.au and I will endeavour to provide insights on the matter in the next issue of *The Gwydir News*.

Until next time...

Living the Gwydir Good Life

Cr Tiffany Galvin, Mayor

orange festival

The vast avenue of navel orange trees lining Finch Street was planted in the 1950s to commemorate Bingara's WWI and WWII fallen soldiers. Unique to Bingara, the trees have become a symbol of community pride and the focus of the annual Orange Picking Ceremony.

The original avenue of oranges planted along Finch Street between the RSL Club, and the Central School were valencias. But over the decades these were replaced with navels.

The oranges traditionally remain untouched until the nominated day. This year's ceremony will be celebrating its 65th anniversary and will be held on Friday 4 July at 11am.

Following a memorial ceremony which is held outside the Returned Services Club, the town's school children (the **Orange Police**) rush to harvest them.

Those lucky enough to be in Bingara during the harvest are also invited to join in this much-loved Bingara tradition.

This respect, self-discipline and pride in this unique memorial has been carried out since 1960, from one generation to the next. In some cases, those picking the fruit are the fourth or fifth generation to do so.

On Saturday 5 July the **Bingara Orange Festival – Bingara, Now and Then** will kick off from 10am.

The day is coordinated and hosted by members of the Bingara Special Events Committee who volunteer their time to ensure everyone has a fantastic day. The Committee is very excited to announce that Hugh Whitfeld will be announcing on the day.

The Festival boasts a Happy Days theme, and many will enjoy the rock n roll band Memphis Moovers and Sydney Swing Katz dancers. There will be stalls, crafts, a display in the library, great food and a grand parade at 2pm.

This year's Festival is proudly supported by the Bingara Community Op Shop (who has kindly donated \$2,000 for prizes), Bingara Wattle Arts and Craft, Bingara and District VISION 20/20, Regional Australia Bank and Gwydir Shire Council. There are many prize categories – see page 9 for more details.

If you want to find the perfect costume, try the Bingara Community Op Shop. The volunteers there have been busy sorting rock n roll, orange and vintage clothing.

This year's parade will be bigger and better with at least 12 community groups to participate. The Manilla Pipe Band will lead the parade which will start at 2pm.

The Festival is complemented by a 'ute barrel', rodeo and fireworks at the showground starting 3pm.

On Friday night enjoy a movie at The Roxy. The movie, *The Great Escaper* (NOT to be confused with the movie *The Great Escape*) will start at 6pm. Tickets are \$5 and there will be soft drinks and snacks available to purchase. *The Great Escaper* is a 2023 film starring Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson. The film tells the real story of Royal Navy veteran, Bernard Jordan, who "escaped" from his care home in June 2014 to attend the 70th anniversary of D-Day commemorations in Normandy. The night is a fundraiser for the Bingara Special Events Committee.



BINGARA

Orange festival

Bingara, Now and Then

SATURDAY 5 JULY 2025

10am | Street Parade 2pm

MEMPHIS MOOVERS | SWING KATZ | VINTAGE CAR DISPLAY | MARKET STALLS

Rodeo | CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT | FOOD TRUCKS

TOURS OF THE ROXY THEATRE AND *Happy Days Theme*



Bingara, NSW



GWYDIR
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For further event details, local attractions and accommodation visit www.visitgwydir.com.au

Happy Days Festival

Bingara, Now and Then

Billy Cart Competition - Make, Display
and Parade - \$50

Best Decorated - Bicycle, Skateboard,
Pram, Wheelchair, Scooter, Gopher,
& Golf Cart - \$50 each category

Cooking Competition Featuring Oranges -
Sweet section and Savory sections - \$50 each

Best Window Display - 1st \$200, 2nd \$100

**Children Spot the Oranges in the Street
Windows** - special treat prizes

Best decorated Parade Floats
- 1st \$200, 2nd \$100

Best dressed boy, girl, lady & man - \$50 each

**Best individual/couple in period costume in
classic car** - \$50/\$100

Best Photo of the Festival - \$300

Terms & Conditions



**orange
festival**



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BINGARA

Orange festival

Rodeo at the Showground

SATURDAY 5 JULY 2025

Gates open at 3:00pm | Ute Barrel Race at 3:30pm

Rodeo at 4:30pm | Fireworks at 7:30pm

Full Bar and Canteen | Free Event



Bingara, NSW


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For further event details, local attractions and accommodation visit www.visitgwydir.com.au

Brendan Moylan MP

Northern Tablelands Residents Receive King's Birthday Honours

SUNDAY 8 JUNE 2025

Member for Northern Tablelands Brendan Moylan has congratulated the dedicated and hard-working recipients of King's Birthday Honours.

Two Northern Tablelands residents received the honour of a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), while one received a Public Service Medal (PSM).

"It is fantastic to have people from our region honoured for dedication to their communities and their professions," Mr Moylan said.

"People from all walks of life and fields of expertise have been recognised for their contribution to their work."

"These honours celebrate integrity, commitment and compassion, and I congratulate each and every one of these recipients."

Cyril 'Jimmy' Tanner received an OAM for service to rugby league in Armidale. Mr Tanner has fulfilled numerous roles in the sport at the Armidale Rams over many decades. He started out as a player in 1947 and has also performed as a coach, groundsman, barbecue chef and fundraiser. Mr Tanner was also named the Greater Northern Region of NSWRL's Volunteer of the Year in 2019 as well as this year's NSW Seniors Festival Local Achievement Award.

Glen Innes' Jan Lemon received an OAM for her dedication to the local community. Ms Lemon serves on the Glen Innes and District Australia Day committee as the chairperson, spokesperson, master of ceremonies and secretary. She was named on the NSW Hidden Treasures Honour Roll. Ms Lemon is also a long-term committee member of the Lioness Club of Glen Innes, radio presenter at 2CBD and STA FM, a life member, president, treasurer, referee, canteen manager, and committee member of Glen Innes Basketball Association. She volunteers at the Glen Innes Show and fundraises for a number of charities within the region.

Max Eastcott received a Public Service Medal for his outstanding public service to local government and the Gwydir Shire. He has worked for more than 50 years at local government throughout NSW including Sydney and Byron Bay, before landing at Gwydir Shire Council in 2001. Mr Eastcott has overseen numerous initiatives and changes within local government. His list of accolades includes playing a key role in the successful amalgamation of Yallaroi, Bingara and part Barraba Shire Councils into the Gwydir Shire Council in 2004, being a driver of agricultural and educational programs within the region, having the Myall Creek Massacre and memorial site included as a place in the NSW Heritage Register, the refurbishment and redevelopment of the Roxy Theatre in Bingara, and much more.

Letters to the Editor

I am now 75 years old and have lived in Bingara for the last 10 years and would like take this opportunity whilst I am still healthy to express my gratitude in being a part of such a vibrant and caring community.

First impressions 12 years ago whilst staying at the caravan park – from viewing the wonderful Gwydir River just across the road, the really elegant shaped bridge, the huge tree with a root system so big that even I was small enough to explore from the inside and the gorgeous horses grazing contentedly along the river banks, to the bird life on the river and the Jasper rocks just everywhere by the coat ramp, then realising that the hospital was on one side of the caravan park and the swimming pool set amongst big shade trees was on the other—I felt delighted with it all.

Then to venture across the bridge into a town with wide streets, lovely houses all different from each other, each with gardens full of flowers and well kept lawns to the big well-manicured grounds of the public spaces from the golf course to the showgrounds, to the football oval to the cemetery.

Then to wander down the main street to discover the beautiful old buildings, to watch people stop anywhere to chat with each other, to then see The Roxy where posters in the windows showed there is a very thriving theatre company here. It was at this point that I realised that I was going to come and live here. Which I did, two years later.

Over the years I have been here I have been so impressed with the amount of care, creativity and compassion there is in this community.

From the welcoming churches, the staff at the medical centre, the information centre, the council offices, the library, the HAC people who drive us to medical appointments miles away from Bingara, the chemist, the post office staff who help us understand the confusing technology to pay our bills, the elderly citizens club, the caring hospital staff, the ambulance people and the Westpac helicopter pilots and Touriandi—we are so well looked after with compassion and dignity from all concerned. Thank you, people of Bingara.

For the wonderful donations that are dropped off for our op shop to be resold and reloved—thank you, people of Bingara. It is such a joy to be able to recirculate absolute treasures back into the local community and give support financially from the proceeds back into our community at the same time.

From the creative work that we see every year at the craft shop, in the annual show pavilion, the flower show and the

quilting displays at the Wireman Crowley Hall and the Op Shop's fashion parades, as well as the North West Theatre Company's productions, we can enjoy so much that is of visual interest. As well as the sporting events, of course.

The town's museum is also absorbing. From the wonderfully rich connections to their past people here have donated absolute treasures, whether it be local gemstones, carriages, everyday items from pioneering living, old machinery, school collections to war memories in the new Military Museum—most certainly a very classy museum from such a little town.

The quiet nights are often filled with millions of stars, the protective barking of the dogs and occasionally an owl, can be heard just before dawn. We live in a town where neighbors watch out for each other, where there is incredible respect for the men of this town who went off to fight in two world wars and never returned. Bingara's Anzac Day celebrations and ceremonies are truly special. As is the Orange Picking Ceremony held each year in July outside the RSL run by the students at Bingara Central School.

I remember the first year I was at this ceremony the *Advance Australia Fair* anthem was accompanied by an upbeat didgeridoo rhythm which filled me with joy and excitement. I was convinced then that Bingara school people had come up with the perfect answer to Reconciliation between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples of this country by connecting through music a vibrant and harmonising anthem that would certainly aid the cause of Reconciliation far better than any other way for the youth of our country to take into the future.

Two other images that stay in my mind—the first one being the sight of the HUGE agricultural machinery that can be maneuvered down Cunningham Street into the main street and no one blinks an eye, and the second one being the sight of Wadey running alongside heaps of horses and keeping up with them along the track down to the river and the horses all following him so simply and easily. So impressive to see. Just another example of the magic in this town.

I remember the first year of the Pulse Festival out at The Living Classroom and how valuable that festival was in bringing a number of young families to live at Bingara because they felt that this town was going to be the right place for them to bring up their children.

And I could go on and on about how much fun it is to live in this town ...to be a volunteer is a great way to stay connected to the pulse of Bingara, to help form the future. Bingara is such a special place and I am so proud and happy to be living here.

Thank you, Bingara.

Lynne Clarke

How can road trauma in regional NSW be reduced?

Last year close to 70 per cent of the state's road fatalities occurred in regional NSW.¹ A new inquiry by the Committee on Road Safety is looking into what work can be done to reduce regional road trauma caused by speeding, fatigue, drink and drug driving.

"Regional communities continue to have a disproportionately high number of road fatalities and it is important that we look for interventions to combat road trauma on regional roads," said Committee Chair, Greg Warren MP.

"Our inquiry is looking at whether current strategies and programs are effective in reducing driving risk factors, such as fatigue, speeding and drink driving, that increase the likelihood of road crashes."

The Committee would like to hear from a range of stakeholders on this important issue and are inviting submissions from regional and rural community members, road safety experts, community organisations, local councils, first responders and healthcare workers.

More information, including the inquiry's terms of reference and how to make a submission, is available on the Committee's webpage: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=3102#tab-termsofreference>

Submissions close on 25 July 2025.

¹ Transport for NSW, **Drive so others survive**, media release, 12 May 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/media-releases/drive-so-others-survive#:~:text=In%202024%2C%20334%20people%20were,made%20a%20road%20safety%20pledge>

Planning a burn on your property?

If you're planning a burn on your property outside the Bush Fire Danger Period, you are still required to notify the RFS and your neighbours at least 24 hours prior to lighting up.



Notifying is quick and easy – you can do it online at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify or by scanning the QR code.

Help protect your community by keeping everyone informed and preventing unnecessary emergency calls.

DON'T BE THE FIRE RISK TO YOUR COMMUNITY



RFS

In the News

Joyce: Net Zero Puts Country at Risk

Politics

Originally published by STA FM

by Gerry | June 12, 2025

<https://www.stafm.com.au/joyce-net-zero-puts-country-at-risk/>

New England MP Barnaby Joyce has stressed he won't surrender his fight against Net Zero, warning the country is at threat of being weakened if we continue down this line and energy costs continue to grow.

Mr Joyce says the Government's crusade to change the weather, a crusade without the vast majority of the globe crusading with us, has cost Australia over 9 billion dollars to date which has been used to subsidise rich overseas companies to build renewable projects.

Speaking on STA Fm yesterday, Mr Joyce says the millionaires in favour of net zero gives them a chance to have their form of electricity sold at their price and terms to Australians, equating to higher power bills and making the nation weak.

Mr Joyce says if he surrendered his fight against Net Zero and the nation becomes weaker; the country could then be lost to overseas interests adding the recent events involving the Chinese navy are a wake-up call to everyone.

In the News

Hundreds Flock to Myall Creek

Arts & Culture

Community

Originally published by STA FM

by Gerry | June 9, 2025

<https://www.stafm.com.au/hundreds-flock-to-myall-creek/>

A crowd of around 500 consisting of locals and visitors attended to pay their respects and observe the day at Sunday's Myall Creek Massacre Memorial.

Attendees gathered to commemorate what occurred, on the afternoon of 10 June 1838, with descendants of both the victims and the perpetrators.

Northern Tablelands MP Brendan Moylan wasn't the only NSW State member to attend the commemorations with Minister for Aboriginal affairs David Harris, Shadow

Aboriginal affairs Minister Felicity Wilson, Member for Newcastle Tim Crakanthorp and the member for Auburn Lynda Voltz in attendance.

This year was a special year as The friends of Myall Creek Committee celebrated the 25th anniversary of the annual gathering at the site with special guests Paulette Hayes, Margaret Blacklock, Colin Isaacs and Ted Stubbins all acknowledged for bringing the memorial into being.

In the News

Telstra Communications Go Down ...Again

Community

Originally published by STA FM

by Gerry | June 9, 2025

<https://www.stafm.com.au/telstra-communications-go-down-again/>

Residents in Warialda, Coolatai and surrounds have had no communications after their Telstra mobile coverage went down yesterday.

Gwydir Shire Council advise Telstra has confirmed that there was an unplanned outage in these areas and Pallamallawa adding it was unclear when mobile services would be restored.

Shire Mayor Tiffany Galvin says she had been in contact with both Northern Tablelands MP Brendan Moylan and Member for New England Barnaby Joyce with both advocating for Gwydir residents to have improved services.

Mayor Galvin says Council has a planned meeting with Telstra on 18 June 2025 and they will be adding this recent outage to the list of matters to be discussed adding Council is doing all it can to improve services cross the whole of their Shire.



STAFM.COM.AU

In the News presents a roundup of current news of interest to local communities. Articles originally published by STA FM. Reprinted with permission.

In the News

Stronger Laws to Stop Puppy Farms and Improve Animal Welfare Introduced

Business

Originally published by STA FM
by Gerry | June 5, 2025

<https://www.stafm.com.au/stronger-laws-to-stop-puppy-farms-and-improve-animal-welfare-introduced/>

Dog breeders across NSW can now apply for exemptions to new puppy farming regulations to ensure they satisfy changes coming into effect on 1 December 2025.

Under the *NSW Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment (Puppy Farming) Act 2024*, breeders can have no more than 20 female adult dogs, which are not desexed and older than six months, on any premise.

Only dog breeders who had more than 20 female adult dogs when the maximum cap became law on 21 November 2024 can apply for a 10-year exemption from this limit until 1 December 2035.

Breeders who had more than 50 female adult dogs (and who are granted an exemption) are required to bring the number down to 50 or below by 1 December 2026.

If a breeder is refused a 10-year exemption, they must comply with the maximum cap of 20 female adult dogs from 1 December 2025.

Applications for an exemption can be made to the Office of Local Government (OLG) for a \$550 fee, giving dog breeders time to manage and appropriately scale down their businesses to comply with the Puppy Farming Act.

This will avoid potential adverse animal welfare outcomes and negative impacts on pounds and rehoming organisations.

Exemption applications will be open until Sunday 13 July 2025 on the OLG website: <https://www.petregistry.olg.nsw.gov.au/temporary-exemption-application>

The NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is working with the OLG to ensure breeders, potential breeders, occupiers of dog premises and the community understand the new requirements.

DPIRD Executive Director Strategy and Regulatory Policy, Peter Goth, said the robust changes ensure animal welfare standards are upheld.

“This legislation ensures transparency, accountability and appropriate animal welfare standards in all dog breeding operations across NSW.”

“These changes will fortify and support animal welfare within the industry and allow people to choose puppies from ethical breeders who promote responsible dog breeding.”

Changes to address key risks to animal health and welfare related to dog breeding practices that commence from 1 December 2025 include:

- All dog breeders must obtain a mandatory Breeder Identification Number through the NSW Pet Registry and include this number along with the microchip number of the dogs they are advertising for sale or giving away, to improve transparency and ensure people purchasing a new puppy know where their dog is coming from.
- New lifetime breeding limits for female dogs with a maximum of five litters in total or up to three caesarean litters with veterinarian approval, whichever occurs first.
- One staff carer for every 20 adult dogs, to ensure dogs receive a minimum standard of care.
- A maximum penalty for individuals of \$110,000, two years imprisonment or both, and \$550,000 for organisations for breaches of these requirements.

For further information on the reforms, including factsheets, visit the DPIRD website.

In the News

Low Income Earners Awarded Pay Rise

Business

Originally published by STA FM
by Gerry | June 4, 2025

<https://www.stafm.com.au/low-income-earners-awarded-pay-rise/>

Low paid workers in the region are set to receive a 3.5% pay increase following an announcement from the Fair Work Commission yesterday.

From July 1, the minimum wage will be increased from \$24.10 per hour, to \$24.94 an hour.

Commission President Adam Hatcher says low-paid Australians had been “squeezed” amid the period of high inflation, and acknowledged that real wages had effectively gone backwards since July 2021.

The Australian Council of Trade Unions called for a 4.5% increase to address years of workers falling back in real terms while the Council of Small Business Organisations Australia, which represents smaller employers like cafes and restaurants, pushed for a rise of between 2 to 2.5 % to alleviate the stresses on businesses struggling to get by saying the pay rise as well as the increase to mandatory superannuation contributions coming into effect, would force many to lay off staff or shut their doors.

When Village Meets Vintage

As light showers and fog scattered the Gwydir Shire on an otherwise unremarkable autumn mid-May day, a robust band of lovers of all things vintage machinery came together on a field, in a village, to make the day exceptional.

The Coolatai Vintage Tractor Pull is a weekend-long annual gathering of kindred folk who radiate an enthusiasm for all things mechanically “classic” or “vintage”. Whilst some in attendance were owners/drivers, the love for these machines and their robust capabilities emanated to spectators, who ranged in age from toddler to those even more “vintage” than the machinery.

The event is not a race, but an opportunity to test the pulling capacity of tractors at least 30 years of age. For the uninitiated, questions as to how this is achieved are heightened when viewing the set-up of the sled to be pulled. The sled consists of a metal plate, laid on the ground, with a concrete weight atop. This weight moves further forward as the pull progresses, increasing resistance and thus making it more difficult for the tractor to move. A red flag is raised by a volunteer to indicate once the tractor is no longer making forward progress and thus has “finished”. The distance the weight has progressed is measured by a ruler of sorts.

Whilst the rules and regulations associated with the event may seem rigorous, they are required for the sake of fairness and safety. These include limits on modifications, the placement of hands during un/hooksing, and the necessity of safety officers.

Technicalities aside, what ensued over the course of the weekend was a combination of beaming faces, gentle rounds of applause, random cries of “woohoo”, and a warm village atmosphere. Conversations and catch-ups were intermittently interrupted by the cacophony of diesel engines grunting or public address announcements about horse power of machines.

Children aspiring to become future owners/drivers of vintage tractors were accommodated in a down-sized event, allowing them to pull jerry can weights behind ride-on lawnmowers.

The weekend in its totality offered opportunities to participate in a carp cull, view other vintage machines in action, purchase knick-knacks, jewellery and accessories, and even take home a sample of freshly sheared wool. Food and beverages were in abundance, allowing a caffeine fix during the day and a cold beverage later in the day.

Many in attendance took advantage of the ability to camp overnight, with updated bathroom facilities and close proximity to the Wallaroo Hotel. An auction at the hotel rounded out events on Saturday, with more machinery-based action taking place Sunday morning.

It must be said, for the mere pittance of a gold coin donation for entry, experiences like this and the generous people who commit their time to them are such a boon to rural communities. What a pleasure it was to attend, and may the Coolatai Vintage Tractor Pull be an ongoing feature of the Gwydir Shire every year.



International Guests Flock to Texas Angus

The World Angus Forum was recently held in Australia, drawing delegates from across the globe to witness Australian Angus genetics showcased on the world stage.

With many international breeders already using Texas Angus genetics, we welcomed an influx of overseas visitors who detoured from the official tours to visit the home of Texas ICEMAN and Texas THUNDERSTRUCK.

We were proud to host breeders from Romania, Scotland, England, Ireland, Portugal, France, and Canada— great endorsement that Texas Angus genetics bred in the Gwydir Shire are making a global impact.



ROSS COOPER OPTOMETRIST

Next visits to Warialda

- June 25
- July 30

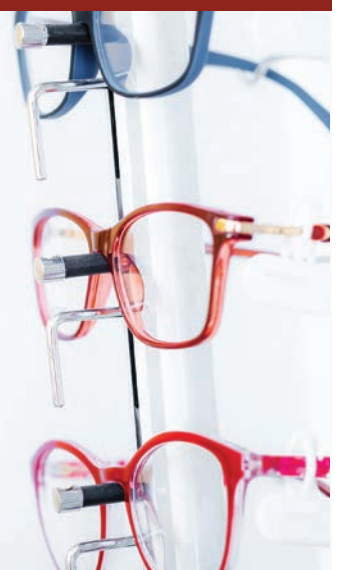
For appointments, contact the
Warialda Medical Centre on
02 6729 1520

Goondiwindi 07 4671 1550

Next visits to Bingara

- June 26
- July 31

For appointments, contact the
Bingara Community Practice on
02 6724 1900



COMMUNITY NEWS

FOR THE GWYDIR SHIRE AND SURROUNDS

THE
Gwydir
NEWS

Pick up your free copy of The Gwydir
News each month at these local outlets

Bingara

Bingara Central School
Bingara Centrelink Agency / Service NSW
Bingara Community College
Bingara IGA Plus Liquor
Bingara MPS
Bingara Post Office
Bingara Returned Servicemen's Club
Bingara Sporting Club
Bingara Visitor Information Centre
Liberty Bingara Café
Shell Garage Bingara
Touriandi Lodge

Warialda

Carlo's IGA Warialda
Galeria Coffee/Pepperbox Gallery
Gwydir Shire Council Chambers
Naroo Aged Hostel
Save the Koala Gift Shop
Warialda Community College
Warialda Family Medical Practice
Warialda High School
Warialda Library
Warialda MPS
Warialda Newsagency
Warialda Post Office
Warialda Public School
Warialda Visitor Information Centre

The NWTC Film Club to Present 'ALEX & EVE' as its June Feature Movie

'Alex & Eve' is a 2015 Australian romantic comedy directed by Peter Andrikidis and written by Alex Lykos, based on Lykos's 2006 play of the same name. The film stars Richard Brancatisano as Alex, a Greek Orthodox schoolteacher, and Andrea Demetriades as Eve, a Lebanese Muslim lawyer, who navigate cultural and familial challenges in their unexpected romance.

The movie explores themes of multiculturalism, tradition, and love in a light-hearted manner. It was generally well-received, earning positive reviews for its humour and heartfelt storytelling. It was even nominated for three awards in 2016, including Best Feature Film at the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival.

The film highlights the tension between personal desires and expectations of family. Both Alex and Eve must navigate their respective Greek Orthodox and Lebanese Muslim backgrounds, facing opposition to their relationship.

The story explores how love challenges and reshapes one's identity, particularly when it conflicts with deeply rooted cultural norms. Through humour and heartfelt moments, the film celebrates Australia's diverse society and raises questions about prejudice, integration, and acceptance.

'Alex & Eve' will be the June feature for the North West Theatre Company Film Club. It will show at 4:00pm on Sunday June 29. **New members are welcome.**

BASED ON THE SMASH HIT PLAY!
"FUNNY" "MOVING" "AN UNEXPECTED PLEASURE"



**RICHARD
BRANCATISANO**

**ANDREA
DEMETRIADES**

ALEX & EVE

**NOTHING CAN KEEP THEM APART...
EXCEPT THEIR PARENTS!**

The North West Theatre Company Film Club presents

Alex & Eve

Sunday June 29th 2025 | 4:00pm | The Roxy Theatre

Workshops coming up across Barraba, Bingara and Wialda campuses!


Hospitality

Issuing Registered Training Organisation
Australian Training Plus (ATPlus) | RTO 91434

Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) ♦

SITHFAB021 Provide responsible service of alcohol


1-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 4.00PM \$320

Wialda Campus  Monday 7 July

Responsible Conduct of Gambling (RCG) ♦

SITHGAM022 Provide responsible gambling services

1-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 4.00PM \$235

Wialda Campus  Tuesday 8 July




WHS & Traffic

Issuing Registered Training Organisation
Australian Training Plus (ATPlus) | RTO 91434

Working Under Powerlines ♦

UETDREL006 Work safely in the vicinity of live electrical apparatus as a non-electrical worker


1-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 4.00PM \$655

Wialda Campus  Monday 23 June

Working Under Powerlines - Refresher ♦

UETDREL006 Work safely in the vicinity of live electrical apparatus as a non-electrical worker

1-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 4.00PM \$580

Bingara Campus  Wednesday 16 July

♦ **Joblink Plus Limited**, trading as Australian Training Plus (ATPlus) - RTO ID No. 91434, will be delivering, assessing and issuing Statements of Attainment to students assessed as competent in the units per course requirements.


Non-Accredited Skill-Building Workshops

Delivering Registered Training Organisation
Community College Northern Inland Inc. (RTO 90027)



Online Safety & Scam Awareness

Enrol in this non-accredited session delivering CSO202310 Online safety and scam awareness.

1/2-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 12.00PM \$50 

Bingara Campus  Friday 11 July

Introduction to Barista Skills

Enrol in this non-accredited training to develop your confidence around kitchen equipment, customer service, and of course, making coffee.

1-Day In-Campus 9.00AM - 4.00PM \$180

Wialda Campus  Friday 27 June

Forklift

Issuing Registered Training Organisation
Talented Training | RTO 45144

Forklift ♦

TLILIC0003 Licence to operate a forklift truck

2-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 8.30AM - 4.30PM \$880

Wialda Campus  Wed 9 - Thurs 10 July

♦ **Talented Training** - RTO ID No. 45144, will be delivering, assessing and issuing Statements of Attainment to students assessed as competent in the units per course requirements.

Apply online at www.ccn.nsw.edu.au

First Aid

Issuing Registered Training Organisation
Community College Northern Inland Inc. (RTO 90027)

Provide First Aid

HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation
HLTAID010 Provide basic emergency life support
HLTAID011 Provide first aid



1-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 4.30PM \$190 **F**

Bingara Campus Tuesday 1 July

Provide CPR

HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation



½-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 12PM \$90 **F**

Warialda Campus Tuesday 24 June

Bingara Campus Tuesday 1 July

F This training is subsidised by the NSW Government. Eligibility rules apply. Fully subsidised training may be available for eligible students (subject to funding available at the time of application). Contact us to discuss course fees and eligibility.

Courses with the Nationally Recognised Training logo are accredited and comply with a national standard. These course are recognised by employers and educational institutions Australia-wide.



Hospitality

Issuing Registered Training Organisation
Community College Northern Inland Inc. (RTO 90027)

Food Handling (Level 1)

SITXFSA005 Use hygienic practices for food safety



1-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 3.00PM \$160 **F**

Barraba Campus Monday 30 June

Food Safety Supervisor

SITXFSA005 Use hygienic practices for food safety
SITXFSA006 Participate in safe food handling practices



1-Day Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00AM - 3.00PM \$260 **F**

Bingara Campus Saturday 12 July



CCNI | COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NORTHERN INLAND

Community College Northern Inland Inc. | RTO 90027

For more information
call Toby on 0438 546 519

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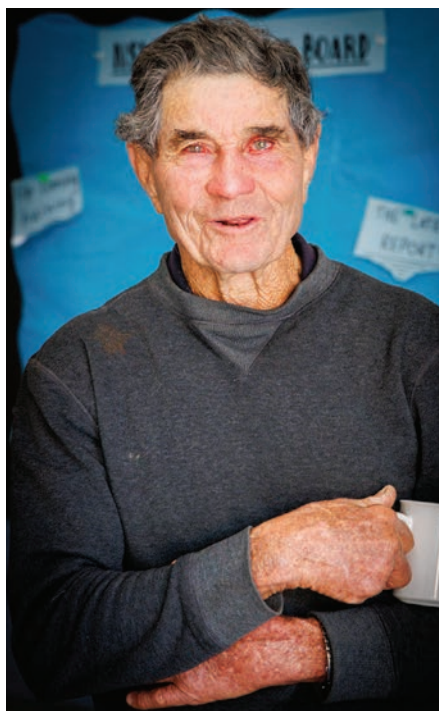
News from Bingara Central School



From the Principal

Farewell to a School Legend: Celebrating Richie Withers' 52 Years of Dedication

After an extraordinary 51 years of devoted service, Bingara Central School bids a fond farewell to Mr



Richard Withers, our beloved cleaner and cherished member of the school community.

Since 1974, Richie has been the first to arrive each day, ensuring our classrooms were warm in Winter, cool in Summer and always ready for learning. He lit the gas heaters, switched on the air conditioners and prepared our spaces with care and dedication. Richie hated missing a day of work, he would never rest and it wasn't until his health suggested he should take some time a few years back, that he actually had some time off.

Richie was more than our cleaner. His friendly chats and warm presence brought joy to staff and students, making the end of each day a little brighter. His commitment and cheerful personality has left a mark on our school's history. The stories he can tell about this place are amazing—Richie can tell me that in 1977 (purely made-up year), they dug up the primary playground to put a pipe in. When the contracted plumbers couldn't locate the service pipe to identify the problem—guess who could!

As Richie steps into a well-deserved retirement, we feel a mix of sadness and immense gratitude. His legacy will remain at our school and his contributions will be remembered for generations.

Thank you Richie, for your extraordinary service and the joy you've brought into our lives. Enjoy your retirement—you've truly earned it.

Stage 4 Science Explorers

Our Stage 4 science students have been learning about microorganisms this term.

Putting theory into practice, students set out in the playground to find a sample of stagnant water to take back to the laboratory. They were able to make observations about the contents of the water with the naked eye before pipetting small samples onto slides to be investigated under a microscope.

Working in small groups, they noticed the wide variety of live organisms that they had each come across. With a magnified view they could see details

including the organisms eating, their shape and colour as well as structural components. Students were required to detail their observations, describing what they have seen.

We love watching the engagement of our students as they embrace opportunities to be hands-on in their learning.



Exceptional Results at Wingham Beef Week

Nine BCS Cattle Club students attended Wingham Beef Week under the guidance of Mr Mill and Mrs Anderson during May. This was a great opportunity to expand on and develop their experience showing cattle.

Their efforts in all areas were well rewarded and our team was successful in receiving:

- Best Presented Steer at Beef Week
- 1st and Overall Reserve Champion Led Steer/Heifer Heavy Weight
- 3rd in Class – Heavy Weight Steer/Heifer
- 1st in Class – Heavy Weight Steer/Heifer
- 3rd on Hook – Heavy Weight Steer/Heifer

In addition, congratulations go to George R who was awarded 6th in the Schools Encouragement Award.

Each of 20 schools in attendance had one student selected to proceed to a panel interview. During this process George was assessed on his commitment to the school cattle program, his leadership qualities and his passion for the beef industry.

Well done, George. This is a fantastic achievement and is great recognition of his ongoing commitment to Cattle Club.



BCS Off to Central Schools Touch Football State Championships

We are excited to share that all four of our Touch Football teams that competed in the Northern Central Schools Touch Competition recently have been successful in making it through to the State Championships.

Finishing on top of the ladder, Bingara Central School 16s Girls had a fantastic day, coming away with 6 wins and no losses. Equally as impressive, the 16s Boys team had 3 wins with no losses.

Opens Boys and Girls teams had some thrilling games and have also progressed with the finals to be held in Dubbo in September.



Drive By Encouragement Award

E. Section (over the river)

Our Encouragement Award for May went to Tom Powell for his garden at Rosehill Drive, off Bassett Street.

A newish garden with extensive landscaping, on a sloping block has been lavishly planted, including natives large and small, and very well selected. A very prolific flowering potato vine along the front fence was a real eye catcher. With some splashes of colour, including some autumn leaves, a mystery bush with large purple flowers and Oleander blooms as well.

This garden is watered with micro sprinklers resulting in a very thriving, abundant appearance. Congratulations to Tom Powell and well done!



News from Gravesend Public School



What's News @Gravo Public School

Small Schools Demonstrate Excellent Practice

Gravesend and our small school friends at Croppa Creek Public School and Tulloona Public School worked together in their unique contexts while creating opportunities in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics). This combined schools STEAM cluster has been chosen as an example of best practice when meeting the needs of High Potential, Gifted, and Talented Education (HPGE) in Regional, Rural, and Remote Education. Term 2 Staff Development Days across the state focussed on HPGE and its relevant

policies. Our example is part of the suite of modules schools can choose to complete to inform innovation and change in their own contexts. We are very excited about this development and for the recognition of the hard work exhibited by staff and students.



Pulse Alive Twenty Five

Seven students from Gravesend PS elected to be involved in Pulse Moree, a creative and performing arts extravaganza. Our dancers rehearsed with endless enthusiasm for three days to be involved in a community performance that was hosted at Moree Secondary College School Hall. It was

a wonderful collaboration with other schools to show case our students' creative flair. Once again, the expertise of the Pulse Alive Moree team was beyond outstanding, and we are grateful to be involved in this magnificent opportunity. The team includes experts in dance, drama, music and choreography. Pulse Moree also bring a full team of sound, lightening and staging experts to bring a professional mini school spectacular to rural and remote students.

Killin' It @ Keepit!

What a week to remember! Our students had an unforgettable time at Lake Keepit for our annual excursion. From the adrenaline of the Mud Run to the precision of Archery, the excitement was palpable! It was heartwarming to see our older students cheering on their younger peers, embodying true teamwork and camaraderie. A special shoutout to Mrs. Todd, who was in awe of the teamwork displayed during Rogaining. Teams navigated the grounds, hunting for superheroes and villains, and they did it like pros! Thank you Mr Quinn, Mrs Lockhart, Mrs Buggy and Mrs Todd for your endless energy and ensuring our students were safe and having fun.



Carinda Hosts the Biggest Morning Tea

On Thursday May 22nd an enjoyable Garden Party, hosted by Carinda ladies, took place to raise money for cancer research. The garden party was Warialda's event for The Biggest Morning Tea. Patrons were treated to delicious homemade treats with their tea/coffee whilst enjoying the company of family and friends.

President Margaret welcomed everyone and introduced the guest speaker, Sally Laurie, McGrath Support Nurse who is based in Moree and visits clients in Warialda. Sally spoke glowingly of the McGrath Foundation and the support given by nurses to cancer patients at no cost to them. Our thanks to Sally for her informative talk.

The raffle, consisting of four boxes of donated items (each valued at over \$200) was drawn. The lucky winners were Margaret Rose, Colleen Power, Ted Stubbins and Laura Kwan. Congratulations to the lucky winners. Jeanette Cuell won the lucky ticket prize.

At the conclusion of the day \$2,000 was the total amount raised for cancer research. This amount consisted of morning tea boxes being distributed/collected to schools and business houses on Tuesday May 20th at a cost of \$5 per box; money raised at the Garden Party; selling of raffle tickets; a contribution from Naroo residents who held their own morning tea on Monday May 19th. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

There are a number of "thank yous" to be made:

- The business houses and residents who donated items for the raffle.
- Gwydir Shire employees, Grant and Wayne, who put up the gazebos and delivered chairs.

- Kate Hall for baking the delicious damper for the boxes.
- Connie and Sherry, the Cake Ladies, who made the scones for the boxes.
- The generous, busy ladies from Carinda who worked to make the The Biggest Morning Tea events such a success.
- Warialda residents for their generous support.

Thank you all.



Cancer Council
Australia's Biggest
Morning Tea



SPORT

Warialda Golf and Bowling Club News

The Warialda Golf and Bowling Club has seen plenty taking place of late. Recently part of the exterior has been painted and roof restoration and painting taking place. A much needed project that was funded by the Warialda Golf and Bowling Club Catering group. The club has also seen new chairs delivered to help upgrade some of the interior furniture. These were donated by the Tweed Heads Golf Club.

The golf course and bowling greens look amazing and are receiving many a positive comment from locals and travellers alike. Remember if you are not a member you need to pay green fees, as these help our club fund the large costs of maintaining such great facilities.

We continue to have our Friday Night Raffles, Joker Jackpot and Members Draw each Friday night at 6.30pm. Courtesy Bus is available but must be pre booked.

On the third Saturday of each month there is karaoke for all to enjoy! The last Saturday of each month boasts the Monthly Monster Raffle with \$1,000 in prizes and a Chinese smorgasbord.

Thursday afternoons there is line dancing from 4pm-5pm and then a second session from 6pm to 7pm.

Competition Darts on Wednesday evenings proves to be very popular with six teams in the current competition.

The club is proud to be major sponsor of the Mighty Warialda Wombats. Make sure you come back after the home games and catch up with the players!

Our popular Christmas in July will once again take place with live entertainment and a great dinner to be had! Tickets are on sale at the club and are \$30 per adult and \$15 for children 12 and under. Seats are limited so purchase your tickets and book a table today! It will take place on the 19th of July from 6.30pm.

Apart from that we have our Golf and Bowls each week. Ladies Golf is held on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Veterans Golf is on Friday afternoons and Men's golf takes place on Sundays. Social Bowls is on Saturday afternoons.

All are welcome, if new to town or just didn't realise what was on, contact the club if you are interested in golf, bowls, darts or line dancing! Don't forget our Chinese Restaurant, open for lunch and dinner!

Memberships will be due July 1st and we have social, Bowls, Golf and Full Membership options. Support your local club and become a member and get involved today!

Mick Collins, President

Bingara Golf Report

May/June 2025

by John Gill

Bingara men's golf championships were held over two consecutive weekends, 17th/18th and 23rd/24th May 2025—a 72 hole stroke event. Congratulations to the following golfers.

Results

Club Champion and A Grade Winner Shane Thomson

Runner Up, A Grade Ron Armstrong

Nett Winner, A Grade Peter Smith

Nett Runner Up, A Grade Tom Fullerton

B Grade and Veterans Winner Merv Hall

Runner Up, B Grade Garry Hincksman

Nett Winner, B Grade Mark McGowan

Nett Runner Up, B Grade Richard Scutt

C Grade Winner Ian Egan

Runner Up, C Grade John Gill

Nett Winner, C Grade John Robinson



Ian Egan receives C Grade trophy from Golf President Garry Hincksman.

SPORT

On Sunday 1st June 2025, Bingara mens golf played June monthly medal with 19 golfers taking part on the day.

June Monthly Medal - Results

Winner	Gerry Amer - 65 nett
Runner-Up	Shane Thomson - 66 nett
Ball Competition	Jayden Booth - 68 nett Richard Scutt - 68 nett Ron Armstrong - 70 nett
Nearest to Pin	9/18 Jayden Booth 7/16 Laurie Mensforth
Second Best Shot	6/15 Tee A Grade 0/18 Shane Thomson B Grade 19+ No-one good enough
Jackpot Ball	One ball Richard Scutt played on the day
Bradman Trophy	Danny Capel



Golf President Garry Hincksman, presented club and A Grade Champion trophy to Shane Thomson.



Merv Hall receives B Grade trophy from Golf President Garry Hincksman.



Educate your children
about fire safety.

fire.nsw.gov.au/education





The next meeting of the Gwydir Ark Biodiversity Group will be held on Tuesday 1st July starting 2pm at the Imperial Hotel. All welcome.

August meeting of the Gwydir Ark Biodiversity Group will be held on Tuesday 5th August starting 2pm at the Imperial Hotel. All welcome.

Mozzies may hibernate in winter, but you shouldn't.

Protect yourself against Japanese encephalitis virus before the next mozzie season.

Talk to your GP, pharmacist or other primary health care provider about getting vaccinated today.



SCIA Community Network Meet & Greet

Do you have a physical disability, spinal cord injury or neurological condition, are a close friend, family member or a carer, live in the Moree/New England area and are passionate about community issues and would like to connect, discuss relevant issues, share experiences, and support other?

Join us for our next Meet and Greet!

Date: Saturday 5 July 2025

Time: 11am-12:30pm

To enquire and register to attend please contact Tanya on 0408 448 840 or email representative@scia.org.au

Link about event: <https://scia.org.au/about-us/events/the-new-england-advocacy-community-network-meet-greet-2/>

scia
Spinal Cord Injuries Australia

DO YOU HAVE A SPINAL CORD INJURY OR NEUROLOGICAL CONDITION, LIVE IN THE NEW ENGLAND AREA & ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT COMMUNITY ISSUES?

Meet & Greet!

SATURDAY 5 July 2025

11am - 2pm

At Albie's Restaurant, Moree Services Club, 3 Albert Street, Moree

To register for the event scan this QR CODE or Email us at: representative@scia.org.au

Family members and carers welcome





GET THE FLU VACCINE TO PROTECT YOU BOTH

Flu can be very serious for pregnant women and their babies.

The **FREE** 2025 influenza vaccine protects you and your baby for their first six months.

Talk to your health professional about the influenza vaccine today.



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Visit health.gov.au/flu



PUBLIC NOTICES

Community Recycling Stations

The right place for your small problem waste



It's **FREE** to drop off:

- Household batteries
- Smoke detectors
- Fluoro globes (no fluorescent tubes)
- Mobile phones
- Electronic waste
- Ink cartridges
- Eye glasses
- X-rays

Collection of these items will vary by location.

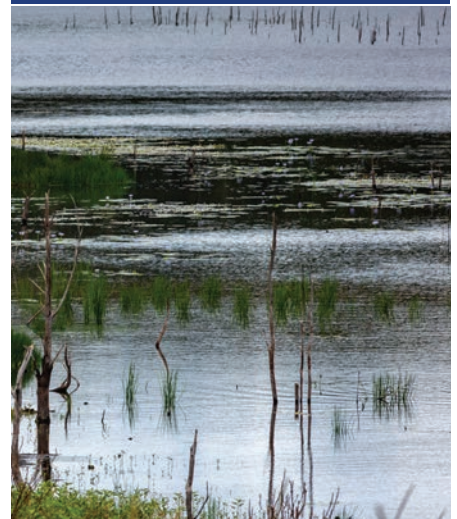
To find your nearest Community Recycling Station and the items accepted, visit nirw.org.au/projects/community-recycling-stations or contact your local Council



Copeton Dam Level

as at 12
May 2025

53%



THE BINGARA GARDEN CLUB

The Bingara Garden Club holds monthly meetings at the Bingara Sporting Club at 10am on the fourth Thursday of each month. Aspiring members are welcome.

Calling all Publicity Officers

Are you a publicity officer for an organisation in the Gwydir region? The Gwydir News welcomes submissions from the community.

Send your contribution to the Editor at gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au or call us on 0438 546 519.



If you're a budding journalist or photographer, we'd love to feature your work—reach out to us to learn how to get involved.

gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au

Next issue of The Gwydir News Thursday 17th July. **Book ads by Monday 7th July** at email: gwydirnews@ccni.nsw.edu.au

PUBLIC NOTICES

EPIC
explorers
Holiday Kids Club
9-11 July 2025
Warialda Anglican Church

For more info & rego, go to
www.warialdaanglican.org.au



**BINGARA DISTRICT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Bingara Museum
Monthly Meeting
20th June 2025

Judi Peterson, Secretary

FEATURED BUSINESSES



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56 FINCH STREET, BINGARA NSW



Gwydir
Chartered
Accountants

- Tax & Accounting
- Business Planning
- CFO Services
- Management Accounting
- Software Advice
- Bookkeeping Automation

Locally owned and operated in the
Gwydir Shire

(02) 6724 1658

admin@gwydirca.com.au



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS™

What's on

JUNE 2025

Friday 20 th	Bingara District Historical Society - Museum Meeting
Tuesday 24 th	Warialda MPS Outreach Clinics at Gravesend - 10:00am to 12:00pm - Gravesend RSL Club Hall
Saturday 28 th	Croppa Creek Cracker & Bonfire Night
Sunday 29 th	NWTC Film Club 'Alex and Eve' - 4:00pm - The Roxy Theatre, Bingara - New members welcome

JULY 2025

Tuesday 1 st	Gwydir Ark Biodiversity Group Meeting - 2:00pm - The Imperial Hotel, Bingara
Thursday 3 rd - Monday 7 th	Willoughby Youth Exchange
Friday 4 th	65 th Anniversary Orange Picking Ceremony - 11:00am
Saturday 5 th	Bingara Orange Festival - 10:00am to 3:00pm - Maitland Street, Bingara
Saturday 5 th	Nighttime Entertainment organised by Bingara Show Society - Ute Barrel Races at 3:30pm - Rodeo at 4:30pm - Fireworks at 7:30pm - Bar and Canteen operating - Bingara Showground
Saturday 5 th	Cover Bandits band will be playing rock n roll, country and modern music - 8:00pm - Bingara RSL
Friday 11 th - Sunday 13 th	North Star Campdraft
Saturday 26 th - Sunday 27 th	RRR Trail Ride - North Star
Sunday 27 th	NWTC Film Club 'Fracture' - 4:00pm - The Roxy Theatre, Bingara - New members welcome

AUGUST 2025

Tuesday 5 th	Warialda MPS Outreach Clinics at Coolatai - 10:00am to 12:00pm - Coolatai Community Hall
Tuesday 5 th	Gwydir Ark Biodiversity Group Meeting - 2:00pm - The Imperial Hotel, Bingara
Thursday 7 th	Trinket the Robot at The Roxy Theatre, Bingara
Thursday 7 th	Bridge, 500, Scrabble and Mahjong - Fundraiser for Naroo Hostel - for details contact 0428 291 902
Saturday 16 th	Bingara Races
Saturday 16 th	Rock City Rock performing - Bingara RSL - from 5:30pm
Tuesday 19 th	Warialda MPS Outreach Clinics at Gravesend - 10:00am to 12:00pm - Gravesend RSL Club Hall
Saturday 23 rd	Grazing on the Gwydir
Saturday 30 th - Sunday 31 st	Gravesend Campdraft
Sunday 31 st	NWTC Film Club 'Some Like It Hot' - 4:00pm - The Roxy Theatre, Bingara - New members welcome

Church Notices

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Bingara	Worship at St John's Anglican Parish, Bingara - Sundays 9.30am
Warialda	Warialda Anglican Church, Warialda - Sundays 9.30am
Coolatai	First Sunday month 3.00pm
Minister Steve Cimarosti can be contacted on (02) 6729 1501.	

CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISHES WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Bingara	Sundays 8.00am
Delunga	Sundays 10.00am 4 th weekend 6.00pm
Warialda	Saturdays 6.00pm 4 th weekend 10.00am

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Bingara	2 nd and 4 th weeks - Rosary 9.30am/Mass 10.00am
Warialda	1 st and 3 rd weeks - Mass Mon, Wed 9.00am Tue, Thu 10.00am

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Thanksgiving and Family Mass - by appointment (02) 6729 1116.

UNITING CHURCH

Inverell Uniting Church services are live streamed at 9.00am on the Inverell Uniting Church Family private Facebook Group. These services are also recorded for later viewing - please search and join.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bingara	Scots Presbyterian Church is open for worship at 10.00am every Sunday. Sunday School is also held each week.
Warialda	St Stephen's Presbyterian Church has a weekly worship service each Sunday at 10.00am. All welcome. Enquiries (02) 6721 0511.